

**EUROPEAN HOCKEY FEDERATION**

**STATUTES**

## 1. NAME

(i) The Federation shall be called the EUROPEAN HOCKEY FEDERATION, non profit association, hereinafter referred to as the 'E.H.F.'

## 2. OFFICIAL SEAT

(i) The official seat of the E.H.F. is established at 1210 Brussels (Saint-Josse-Ten-Noode), Avenue des Arts 1-2, in the legal arrondissement of Brussels.

## 3. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE F.I.H.

(i) The E.H.F. exists within the framework of the International Hockey Federation (F.I.H.) and under its authority. It agrees to conform to the Statutes and the Bye-Laws of the F.I.H. and also to obtain the latter's prior agreement before undertaking any fundamental initiative or change in its operations.

(ii) These Statutes have been approved by the F.I.H., and any additions, deletions or amendments thereto shall, before being voted on at a General Assembly of the E.H.F., receive the prior approval of the F.I.H.

## 4. OBJECTS

(i) The objects of the E.H.F. shall be to support the F.I.H. in controlling, promoting, defending and developing hockey at all levels throughout the continent of Europe. In all cases, 'hockey' shall also include 'indoor hockey'.

(ii) The E.H.F. and its member National Associations and their affiliated clubs shall support and maintain the ideals and objects of the Olympic movement, and in particular the fight against doping.

(iii) These objects shall involve the reinforcement of contacts and friendly relationships between the National Associations governing hockey in Europe, and shall include the organisation of competitions, championships and cups for the good of European hockey, whether involving countries or clubs.

(iv) To these ends, the E.H.F. shall take such administrative, financial and other actions as are directly or indirectly, wholly or partially necessary for and in conformity with and in furtherance of its objects.

## 5. COMPOSITION – MEMBERSHIP

(i) The E.H.F. is at least composed of three (3) effective members. The association also has adherent members who have rights and obligations, which are granted to them by the present statutes.

(ii) The E.H.F. is composed of the National Associations of European countries that govern hockey in their countries (hereinafter referred to as National Associations). The present member National Associations are listed in Appendix A to these Statutes. Other European National Associations, which are or become member of the F.I.H. and which comply with this criterion shall apply for membership, which shall, if all conditions are fulfilled, be granted provisionally by the Executive Board of the E.H.F. At the first General Assembly to be held following the grant of provisional membership, a motion shall be proposed to confirm the membership.

(iii) Where a body in a European country is or becomes an Adherent Member of the F.I.H., it shall also apply to become an Adherent Member of the E.H.F., and this shall be granted provisionally by the Executive Board of the E.H.F. on such terms and subject to such conditions as the latter shall lay down in each case. In no circumstances shall an Adherent Member have any voting rights, nor shall Adherent Members be included in the 'majority', 'simple majority' or 'special majority' referred to in Articles 5 (v), 7 (viii) and (xi) and 10 (i). At the first General Assembly to be held following the grant of provisional Adherent Membership, a motion shall be proposed to confirm this.

(iv) Any member may withdraw from the E.H.F. at the end of any calendar year provided that it has given at least six months notice in writing to the E.H.F. of such intent and has fulfilled all its financial obligations to the E.H.F.

(v) The Executive Board may at any time suspend a member of the E.H.F. for any conduct inconsistent with its responsibilities as a member of the E.H.F., by resolution of at which at least six weeks notice has been given to the Board's Officers and ordinary members, and by special majority decision (at least three-quarters of those present). This is subject to the subsequent ratification of such suspension by member National Associations voting at the next General Assembly of the E.H.F., by special majority (at least three-quarters of those members present and entitled to vote and who have cast a valid vote). Such suspension shall also be subject to the right of appeal by the National Association concerned to the F.I.H., made within two months of the E.H.F.'s General Assembly, which ratified the suspension. Where a member National Association has been suspended, or after ceasing to be a member for any reason, that National Association (or its replacement, where there has been any change) shall, before being admitted or re-admitted, fulfil all its (or a previous National Association's) financial obligations to the E.H.F., that have accumulated before or during such suspension or cessation.

(vi) The E.H.F may impose such penalties (including penalties of a financial nature) as it shall deem fit for failure to respect the Statutes or for conduct prejudicial to the interest of the game of hockey or to one or more of the E.H.F.'s member National Associations or to one of its clubs, whether caused by a member National Association or by a club or player belonging to that member National Association.

(vii) Should E.H.F impose a penalty, any aggrieved party may, within 7 days of receipt of the written notice of the decision, appeal in writing (by letter, fax, or email) to the Hon. General Secretary of EHF, who will refer the matter to the Commissioner of its Appeal Panel, to convene a Tribunal of Appeal, which shall consider the appeal in accordance with the Regulations for the Enforcement of Discipline and for Appeals and the Rules of Procedure for Appeals.

(viii) The E.H.F. is empowered to recognise suspensions or disqualifications of clubs or players imposed by the member National Association to which they belong and, in such cases, to require that these decisions be applied also by other member National Associations.

## 6. FINANCE

(i) Member National Associations shall pay such annual subscriptions and fees to the E.H.F. as shall from time to time be determined by the Executive Board and, in the case of annual subscriptions fixed on a maximum amount of twenty-five thousand euros (25.000 €) / Member National Association, confirmed by a General Assembly of the E.H.F. Annual subscriptions shall be due on first (1<sup>st</sup>) January and must be paid before thirty-first (31<sup>st</sup>) March of the year in question. Although the subscriptions and fees are normally payable in Euro, the Executive Board shall have the power to decide that they be paid in another currency.

(ii) Fees for participation in international matches between European countries or in tournaments, cups or competitions involving only European countries or clubs shall be fixed by the Executive Board of the E.H.F.

(iii) The E.H.F. may impose financial penalties as permitted in Article 5 (vi) above, and may, by decision of the Executive Board, retain the amounts received for the benefit of the E.H.F. or donate them, either in full or in part, to any member National Association(s) or club(s) that has suffered or is likely to suffer financial loss as a result of the default of the other member National Association or club.

(iv) The E.H.F. may furthermore receive donations and may raise funds to be used for the benefit of European hockey in any way that it thinks fit. It may claim payment of rights for organisation, participation, umpiring, coaching, supervision etc.

(v) The assets and funds of the E.H.F. shall be administered by the Honorary Treasurer of the E.H.F. under the control of the Executive Board. Each financial period shall cover one calendar year starting on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) January and terminating on the thirty-first (31<sup>st</sup>) of December the same year. The Honorary Treasurer shall draw up accounts for each financial period, and these shall be audited. (see Article 9 below).

## 7. GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

(i) The National Associations shall meet in Ordinary General Assembly every year or in Extraordinary General Assembly whenever the Executive Board of the E.H.F. shall decide or when requisitioned by at least one third of the member National Associations.

(ii) An Ordinary General Assembly shall be convened by the Honorary General Secretary at least three months before the appointed date. In the case of an Extraordinary General Assembly, the Honorary General Secretary shall send out convening notices including the business to be transacted thereat within one month of receiving the requisition, and it shall be held within two months of the date of dispatch of the notices.

(iii) The business of each Ordinary General Assembly shall be set out in the agenda sent to member National Associations.

(iv) Candidatures for Officers or members of the Executive Board of the E.H.F. shall be sent to the Honorary General Secretary by registered mail or facsimile transmission at least two months before an Ordinary General Assembly, and details of those standing for re-election and new candidatures shall be notified by the Honorary General Secretary to the member National Associations at least one month before the meeting. A candidate for election or re-election (as the case may be) as an Officer or an ordinary member of the Executive Board of the E.H.F. must be nominated or re-nominated (as the case may be) by his or her country's member National Association and must be a citizen of that country. By making the nomination or re-nomination, that member National Association shall thereby be deemed to give to the E.H.F. an undertaking to financially support such person or persons, so that they can attend meetings of the Executive Board

(v) Each member National Association may be represented at General Assemblies by one or two delegates, one of whom shall be the head of the delegation. The head of the delegation must be a citizen of the country of the National Association that he or she represents. Each delegate shall have the right to speak either in English or in French. However, each member National Association may also be represented by a representative, member or not, holder of a power of attorney signed by its or both its delegates.

(vi) Members of the Executive Board of the E.H.F. may attend General Assemblies in their own right without power of vote, as may European Members of Honour and others who

are permitted by the President or, in his or her absence, the person presiding over the meeting.

(vii) Each member National Association shall be entitled to one vote.

(viii) Except where specifically stated in these Statutes or in the Law, where, at a General Assembly, a majority is required, voting shall be by simple majority, a majority of the eligible votes. However, these Statutes may only be amended, added to or rescinded by a resolution of the General Assembly with two thirds of the effective members present, passed by a special majority of at least three-quarters of those present and entitled to vote and who have cast a valid vote. No such resolution shall be submitted to a General Assembly unless prior notice of its proposal, in accordance with this Article, has been given to all member National Associations.

(ix) Elections for the President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary General Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and the other members of the Executive Board of the E.H.F. together with the Commissioner of the Appeals Panel (see Article 8 below) shall be taken in this order and shall be by ballot.

(x) Where the number of candidates (new and/or standing for re-election) for any position or positions does not exceed the number of vacancies, then the candidate or candidates shall be declared elected without a formal vote.

(xi) Where the number of candidates for any position or positions exceeds the number of vacancies, then there shall be a ballot, and the candidate(s) receiving the most votes shall be declared elected, notwithstanding that a simple majority may not have been obtained.

(xii) If two or more candidates for the last available vacancy or vacancies receive an equal number of votes, then, where there are more candidates than vacancies, there shall be a re-ballot between those candidates only. In the event of there again being an equality of votes, then there shall be a final ballot. In the event that there is still an equality of votes, the place will remain vacant until the next General Assembly.

(xiii) When electing the other members of the Executive Board of the E.H.F. (see above), where it is necessary to elect one or two male members or one or two female members, in order to satisfy Article 8 (iii) below, there shall first be a ballot amongst the male or female candidates (as the case may be) in order to satisfy the condition imposed by Article 8 (iii). In such a case, the required number of male members or female members shall be elected by a ballot, with the vacancy or vacancies being filled by the person or persons receiving the most votes. Any candidates who have not been elected in this first ballot may stand again in the subsequent ballot involving both male and female candidates for the remaining positions on the Executive Board of the E.H.F. when the vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the person or persons receiving the most votes.

## 8. OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COMMISSIONER OF THE APPEALS PANEL

(i) There shall be an Executive Board of the E.H.F., which shall be elected by the General Assembly and shall have most extent powers for the current administrative activities of the E.H.F. The Executive Board shall consist of the Officers of the E.H.F. together with the ordinary members.

(ii) The Officers of the E.H.F. shall be the President, two Vice-Presidents (one male and one female), Honorary General Secretary and Honorary Treasurer.

(iii) In addition to the Officers there shall be seven ordinary members of the Executive Board. At least two of the ordinary members shall be male and at least two female.

(iv) The Officers of the E.H.F. shall be elected by the General Assembly and shall hold office until the Ordinary General Assembly to be held in the fourth following year and, on the expiration of any of their terms, they shall be eligible for re-election at the end of any term of office but may not hold office for more that twelve (12) consecutive years (see Article 7 (iv) regarding nomination and citizenship). Notwithstanding, if the Honorary General Secretary is elected at the same General Assembly as that at which the President is elected, the former shall then hold office until the conclusion of the Ordinary General Assembly to be held in the second following year, when he or she shall be eligible for re-election.

(v) Ordinary members of the Executive Board shall be elected at each Ordinary General Assembly, and shall hold office until the Ordinary General Assembly to be held in the fourth following year. They shall be eligible for re-election at the end of any term of office but may not hold office for more that twelve (12) consecutive years (see Article 7 (iv) regarding nomination and citizenship).

(vi) The Commissioner of the Appeal Panel shall hold office until the Ordinary General Assembly to be held in the fourth following year, and, upon the expiration of their term, they shall be eligible for re-election at the end of any term of office but may not hold office for more than twelve (12) consecutive years. In the event of death, resignation or inability to continue in office then the replacemet provisions identical to those in Article 8 (vii) will apply.

(vii) In the event of the death, resignation or inability to continue in office of one of the Officers or of an ordinary member of the Executive Board during his or her term, the Executive Board shall have the power to replace the Officer or ordinary member, (following nomination by the replacement's country's member National Association) but the replacement shall seek confirmation by standing for election at the next Ordinary General Assembly (see Article 7 (iv) regarding nomination and citizenship) and, if elected

and replacing an Officer or ordinary member whose term of office would have expired two years later, he or she shall hold office until the Ordinary General Assembly to be held in the second following year and shall then be eligible for re-election for a normal four-year term.

(viii) All Officers and ordinary members of the Executive Board shall hold office in their personal capacities and not as representatives of their National Associations or any other organisation.

(ix) The Executive Board shall create such Committees, Sub-Committees and Commissions as it shall deem necessary, and shall appoint the members thereof having considered any nominations from member National Associations. Prior to appointment or re-appointment, he or she shall first be supported by his or her member National Association. By supporting the appointment or re-appointment, that member National Association shall thereby be deemed to give to the E.H.F. an undertaking to financially support such person or persons, so that they can attend meetings of the particular Committee, Sub-Committee or Commission. The Committee members shall normally hold office until the first meeting of the Executive Board following the next Ordinary General Assembly, when they shall be eligible for re-appointment. The Executive Board may similarly dissolve any Committee, Sub-Committee or Commission and may remove any member. These Committees, Sub-Committees and Commissions shall be responsible to the Executive Board.

(x) The Executive Board shall meet on such occasions as the President and/or the Honorary General Secretary may consider necessary.

(xi) The President, when present, shall preside at all meetings. In his or her absence, the meeting shall be presided over by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Honorary General Secretary.

(xii) The Executive Board may nominate 'European Members of Honour' and may confer any other awards and distinctions that it shall consider appropriate, to pay tribute to those who have given outstanding service and/or who have contributed substantially to the game of hockey and its development in Europe.

(xiii) The Honorary General Secretary shall be responsible to the Executive Board, and shall handle the day-to-day administration of the E.H.F. and its relationship with the F.I.H.

(xiv) All official correspondence with the E.H.F. shall be in either English or French.

## 9. AUDITORS

(i) At each Ordinary General Assembly an Auditor shall be appointed to be responsible for the audit of the accounts of the E.H.F., and it shall produce a Report thereon.

(ii) The Auditor's Report shall be presented to the member National Associations at the next Ordinary General Assembly.

#### 10. DISSOLUTION OF THE E.H.F.

(i) The E.H.F. shall not be dissolved except at an Extraordinary General Assembly convened for the purpose and by a resolution supported by four-fifths of the members present or represented and convene at least two-thirds of the members present or represented.

(ii) On such dissolution, the remaining assets shall be administered as shall be determined by the F.I.H. and retained for the benefit of a future European Federation or for the benefit of European hockey generally.

#### 11. MODIFICATION OF STATUTES

(i) The Statutes may be amended, added to or rescinded by a resolution of a General Assembly passed by special majority (see Article 7 (viii) ), following a proposal by the Executive Board or by a member National Association and after the agreement of the F.I.H. has been received. No such resolution shall be submitted to the General Assembly unless the prior notice prescribed by Article 7 has been given to all member National Associations.

#### 12. INTERPRETATION

(i) These Statutes shall exist in both the English and French languages. In the event of any differences in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

(ii) All that has not been handled in the present statutes, will be regulated according to the provisions of Title I of the Law of twenty-seven (27) June nineteen twenty-one (1921) on the non-profit associations and foundations."

# Appendix A

National Associations in membership as at 13<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

1.	ARM	Armenia
2.	AUT	Austria
3.	AZE	Azerbaijan
4.	BLR	Belarus
5.	BEL	Belgium
6.	BUL	Bulgaria
7.	CRO	Croatia
8.	CYP	Cyprus
9.	CZE	Czech Republic
10.	DEN	Denmark
11.	ENG	England
12.	EST	Estonia
13.	FIN	Finland
14.	MKD	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
15.	FRA	France
16.	GEO	Georgia
17.	GER	Germany
18.	GIB	Gibraltar
19.	GRE	Greece
20.	HUN	Hungary
21.	IRL	Ireland
22.	ISL	Israel
23.	ITA	Italy
24.	LTU	Lithuania
25.	LUX	Luxembourg
26.	MLT	Malta
27.	MDA	Moldova
28.	NED	Netherlands
29.	NOR	Norway
30.	POL	Poland
31.	POR	Portugal
32.	ROU	Romania
33.	RUS	Russia
34.	SRB	Serbia
35.	SCO	Scotland
36.	SVK	Slovakia
37.	SLO	Slovenia
38.	ESP	Spain
39.	SWE	Sweden
40.	SUI	Switzerland
41.	TUR	Turkey
42.	UKR	Ukraine
43.	WAL	Wales

## **ADHERENT MEMBERS**

1.	GB	Great Britain
2.	LAT	Latvia

13<sup>th</sup> November 2010